

MUSICIAN CUNG TIEN



Cung Tien is the pen-name of Cung Thuc Tien, born 11-27-1938 in Hanoi. At Nguyen Trai and Chu van An High Schools, he studied music notation and soferggio under famous Vietnamese songwriters Tham Oanh and Chung Quan.

At the age of 14, Cung Tien authored the immortal song "Hoai Cam"(Emotional Recollections). He represents the Prewar Music Movement.

As a student in economics (1957-1963) in Australia, he attended piano, harmony and orchestration classes at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

In 1970-1973, as the recipient of a graduate studies grant from the British Council he studied development economics in Cambridge, England where he also took courses in music history, musicology and modern music theory.

He was a member of the Board of Directors of the American Composers Forum from 1992 to 1999. His music has been performed and recorded in Viet Nam, the United States, France, Germany and Australia. Ballad of a Warrior's Wife, for example, has been presented by the San Jose Symphony Orchestra (CA), the North Orange County Symphony Orchestra (CA), and the Minneapolis Civic Orchestra (MN), among others. The composer has had works commissioned by the Schubert Club of St. Paul (MN) and the Dale Warland Singers; and he has received a grant from the St. Paul Companies (MN) to research Vietnamese folk music and compose an orchestral work using traditional materials.

Thu Vang

Chiều hôm qua lang thang trên đường
Hoàng hôn xuống, chiều thắm muôn hương
chiều hôm qua mình tôi băng khuôn
Có mùa Thu về, tơ vàng vương vương

Một mình đi lang thang trên đường
Buồn hiu hắt và nhớ băng khuôn
Lòng xa xôi và sầu mệnh mộng.
Có nghe lá vàng nào nề rơi không

Mùa Thu vàng tới là mùa lá vàng rơi
Và lá vàng rơi, khi tình Thu vừa khơi
Nhặt lá vàng rơi, xem màu lá còn tươi
Nghe chừng đâu đây màu tê tái

Chiều hôm qua lang thang trên đường
Nhớ nhớ, buồn buồn với chán chường
Chiều hôm nay trời nhiều mây vương
Có mùa Thu Vàng bao nhiêu là hương.

Saigòn 1953